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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: Thomas Hunot, et al.

GROUP: 1761

SERIAL NO.: 10/080,211

EXAMINER:

FILED: February 21, 2002

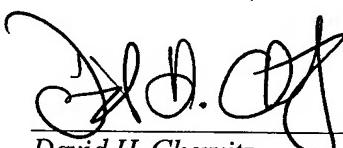
DOCKET NO.: 8210

FOR: ROLLER GRILL ASSEMBLY FOR COOKING HUMAN FOOD

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this STATEMENT PURSUANT TO 37 CFR 1.97 AND 1.98, along with any documents indicated as being enclosed, is being deposited in the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231 on May 20, 2002.



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STATEMENT PURSUANT TO 37 CFR 1.97 AND 1.98

The following information is submitted in accordance with 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98 and MPEP

§609. Enclosed are copies of the references listed on the attached form PTO-1449 for consideration by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office in the above-identified application and to be made of record therein.

Applicant submits herewith patents, publications, or other information of which he may be aware, which he believes may be material to the examination of this application and in respect of which there may be a duty to disclose.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made (37 CFR 1.97(g)), an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability or that no other material information exists.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be considered as an admission against interest in any manner. Notice of January 19, 1992, 1135 O.G. 13-25, at 25.

The Information Disclosure Statement submitted herewith is being filed within three months of the filing date of this application or before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits, whichever event occurs last. 37 CFR 1.97(b).

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

- | | | |
|-----|---------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| AA. | U.S. Patent No. 2,253,434 | HOLDER FOR FOODSTUFFS WHILE ROASTING |
| AB. | U.S. Patent No. 2,604,842 | SAUSAGE GRILL |
| AC. | U.S. Patent No. 3,472,156 | GRILLING OR BROILING APPARATUS |
| AD. | U.S. Patent No. 3,756,219 | ELECTRIC OVEN TOASTER DOOR MECHANISM |
| AE. | U.S. Patent No. 3,981,233 | ANTI-STICK GRILL |
| AF. | U.S. Patent No. 4,817,585 | FIREBOX DOOR ARRANGEMENT |
| AG. | U.S. Patent No. 5,458,051 | BELT COOKING APPARATUS |
| AH. | U.S. Patent No. 5,549,040 | FOOD MATERIAL HEATING MECHANISM |
| AI. | U.S. Patent No. 5,722,315 | SYSTEM AND DEVICE FOR GRILLING FOOD |
| AJ. | U.S. Patent No. 6,166,353 | PREE-STANDING WARMER DRAWER |

OTHER FOREIGN PATENTS

None

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

- BA. APW/Wyott -- Hot Rod Rolling Grills Product Brochure; August, 1995
- BB. Page from a trade magazine (publication date unknown, but product existed prior to Oct. 9, 1997), showing APW/Wyott Roller Grill
- BC. Connolly Roll-A-Grill (publication date unknown, but products existed prior to Oct. 9, 1997)
- BD. Gold Medal Roller Grill Assemblies (publication date unknown, but products existed prior to Oct. 9, 1997)
- BE. Roundup Hot Dog Corrals (publication date unknown, products existed prior to Oct. 9, 1997)
- BF. Trade magazine advertisements showing Gold Medal Products Roller Grill, Berks Packing Company's Roller Grill, and other products (publication date unknown, products existed prior to Oct. 9, 1997)
- BG. Watlow Catalog pages (products such as shown existed prior to Oct. 9, 1997)
- BH. Fluoroplastics, published in *Modern Plastics Encyclopedia*, 1981-1982, discussing polytetrafluoroethylene (PTFE)
- BI. Website Information of Whitford, showing prior art information concerning PTFE (polytetrafluoroethylene)
- BJ. Attached Photographs Numbered 1 through 22

Respectfully submitted,



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FORM PTO-1449 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE		ATTY. DOCKET NO.: 8210	SERIAL NO.: 10/080,211
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT		APPLICANT: Thomas Hunot et al.	
(Use several sheets if necessary)		Filing Date: 02/21/02	Group: 1761

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OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

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REFERENCE TO ATTACHED PHOTOGRAPHS NOS. 1 - 22

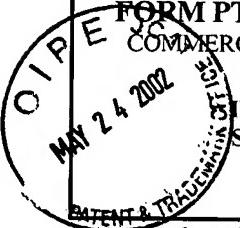
Attached hereafter are sheets of paper with photographs secured thereto. These photographs show prior art roller grills and sneeze guards. Each photograph is numbered. The comments refer to each photograph by number.

Photograph Nos. 1 and 2 show two different views of a sneeze guard of transparent, acrylic plastic that has been sold by Moli, Inc.. This sneeze guard has a pair of semi-circular openings in its domed top. The bottom of those openings are connected by a cross-brace. The bottom of the guard is surrounded by a horizontal perimeter ledge which has a downwardly extending wall that fits about the grill housing.

Photograph Nos. 3, 4, and 5 show, in the foreground, another type of transparent acrylic plastic sneeze guard that has been sold by APW/Wyott Foodservice Equipment Company. This guard has a trapezoidal-shaped opening. A pivotal flap is secured to cover the opening. The flap has outwardly projecting extensions that fit within holes toward the top walls of the guard. A cross-brace, as seen more clearly in photograph no. 5, extends beneath the opening. The guard has a horizontal perimeter ledge and a depending wall that fits about the outer edge of the housing of the roller grill. Note that in photographs 3 and 4 the sneeze guard depicted in photographs 1 and 2 can be seen in the background.

Photograph Nos. 6, 7 and 8 show another type of sneeze guard that has been sold by Star Manufacturing International, Inc. It is divided into two sections which interfit with one another. One section is shown mounted in these photographs nos. 6, 7 and 8. This sneeze guard is of transparent acrylic plastic. It has an intermediate metallic section which is connected at its bottom to an angle flange with a sidewall that fits about the outside of the grill housing walls.

Photograph Nos. 9, 10 and 11 show prior art roller tubes with bearing seals at the ends of the tubes through which the tubes extend. The tubes are mounted to side support frames of the housing. Photograph nos. 9 and 10 show a grill sold by APW/Wyott. It has an annular shield that telescopically receives each roller tube. To the outside of each annular shield is a separate annular bearing. Each annular bearing has a circular flange that fits flush against the interior surface of the inside wall of the side support frame. The circular flange extends outwardly into a cylindrical section that passes through a circular opening in the inside wall of the side frame. At the other end of the cylindrical section of the bearing, there is an outwardly extending flange that fits flush against the outside surface of the inside wall of the side frame. The shield and the bearing flanges act to resist the flow of grease through the side frame wall. The arrangement on photograph no. 11 has been sold by Connolly Roll-A-Grill Corp. The arrangement in photograph no. 11 is similar to that in photograph nos. 9 and 10,

 FORM PTO-1449 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE		ATTY. DOCKET NO.: 8210	SERIAL NO.: 10/080,211
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except that the shield is of black plastic, whereas in photograph nos. 9 and 10 the shield and bearing are of white plastic.

Photograph Nos. 12, 13 and 14 show a grill sold by Star Manufacturing International, Inc. It has roller tubes mounted to the housing of the roller grill, with the outer wall of one of the side supports removed. The chain drive for rotating the five tubes to the right of the frame is seen, as is the cover at the ends of the tubes. The heating elements extending through the tubes can be shown for the five tubes at the left. The motor drive sprocket is located toward the bottom. The drive chain moves in a generally triangular path from the roller tube located at the left of the group of tubes on the right side of the frame, downwardly to the motor drive sprocket. Thence the chain moves upwardly to the right to the far right tube sprocket. The drive for the tubes shown on the left of the photograph is located in the side support wall on the opposite side of the roller grill.

Photograph Nos. 15, 16 and 17 show another drive arrangement for a grill sold by Connolly Roll-A-Grip. The chain moves in a generally triangular path. The chain moves from the sprocket located at the left, in the view of photograph no. 15, downwardly to the lower right to the motor drive shaft. Thence the chain moves upwardly to the right, so that the drive chain is pulling directly against the sprocket connected to a roller tube. The arrangement has a tension sprocket that takes up the slack in the chain, but does not act to drive the chain. The tension sprocket is positioned between the drive sprocket and the sprocket for the roller tube on the far right. The tension sprocket is mounted to a pivotally connected arm. A spring is mounted to the frame and to the tension sprocket to pull the sprocket to take up slack. The covers for the roller tubes are also shown, as are connecting electrical wires for heating the heating elements extending through the tubes.

Photograph Nos. 18 through 22 show a grill sold by Star Manufacturing International, Inc., and relate to a cover for control panels of a roller grill. Photograph Nos. 18, 19 and 20 show isolated views of a cover which has horizontal rearwardly projecting upper and lower walls and a pair of vertically aligned sidewalls. Photograph No. 21 shows a control knob with a pair of U-shaped braces extending from the control wall panel to the sides of the knob. Photograph No. 22 shows the cover mounted in position so that the U-shaped vertical flange (shown to the right of the cover in photograph no. 18, and to the left of the cover in photograph nos. 19 and 20) can fit around the vertical part of one of the U-shaped braces.

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
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EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609.
 Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.